



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vale District Office  
100 Oregon Street  
Vale, Oregon 97918  
<http://www.or.blm.gov/Vale/>



IN REPLY REFER TO:

(Date stamped Oct.12, 2004)

1610 (OBD) (OR034)

Dear Interested Publics:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Malheur Resource Area of the Vale District is initiating an activity management plan for certain public lands located on and near the Owyhee River below the dam of Lake Owyhee. The activity plan will be tiered to and be in conformance with our district's *Southeast Oregon Resource Management Plan* (SEORMP, September, 2002). The SEORMP is viewable on-line at [www.or.blm.gov/Vale](http://www.or.blm.gov/Vale/) or is available through our district.

Your input to this Owyhee River Below the Dam Area planning effort is important. Our first public involvement step is to provide a public scoping period, October 28 through December 31, 2004. With this letter, we invite you to (1) submit issues and concerns you would like to see addressed in the plan, and to (2) describe your vision of specific future management direction for the various resource values and public uses of the area. The enclosed recent news release provides some additional general information about the area, and announces two public scoping meetings to be held on October 28 and November 9, 2004.

Your **scoping comments must be submitted in writing no later than December 31, 2004** to either the above postal or electronic mailing address. Please use the enclosed public comment form, and for electronic mailing submit the form as an attachment. An electronic version of the form is on our district's website.

During and following the scoping period, BLM will analyze submitted public comments and then develop a list of significant issues to be addressed by the plan. Issues will assist us in defining tiered (from the SEORMP) management objectives for the area, to develop a range of viable alternatives for addressing the area's management direction, and to eventually issue and implement a final plan decision. The planning process will be guided by requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, including additional opportunities for public comment.

Thank you for your interest in your public lands.

Sincerely,

s/Tom Dabbs  
Tom Dabbs  
Field Manager  
Malheur Resource Area

2 Attachments

- 1- Public Comment Form
- 2 – Press Release